

Bureau of Water Adopts New Regulations for Public Water Supply Systems

By Kelly D. Kelsey

Bureau of Water - Public Water Supply Section

On Sept. 16, the Secretary of State published new drinking water regulations in the Kansas Register under new Article 15a, titled "Primary Drinking Water Regulations." These regulations, essentially adopt the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations contained in 40 CFR Part 141 by reference.



Therefore, most of the national rules, which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has promulgated pursuant to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), will become the regulations for Kansas public water supply systems. Existing Article 15, titled "Application for Permits; Domestic Water Supply" will be retained with two existing regulations being modified to separately address permitting and construction/operation requirements for public water supply systems. The new regulations became effective Oct. 1.

With the publishing of these new regulations, the Bureau of Water – Public Water Supply Section is completing a two-year project to adopt nine major rule provisions established by the EPA. The following rules are the subjects of regulation revisions required to maintain primacy of the drinking water program:

1. Consumer Confidence Reports Rule
2. Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule
3. Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule
4. Lead and Copper Rule Minor Revisions
5. Revisions to the Public Notification Rule
6. Radionuclides Rule
7. Arsenic Rule
8. Filter Backwash Recycling Rule
9. Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule

Due to the highly technical and complex features of the drinking water subject matter, and because of the overlapping and variable nature of the numerous classification categories of public water supplies to which the rules are applicable, it has become increasingly difficult to develop "stand-alone" Kansas Administrative Regulations. The Bureau of Water considers an adoption of the federal regulations by reference to be in the best interest of the agency and the public at this time.

A complete listing of the new regulations can be found at: <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/pws/>